

Claim 2

2. (Fourth Amended) Method of claim 1, wherein the step of spraying further comprises spraying [characterized in that] the powder material [is sprayed] inside the container body more or less uniformly [by] using a rotating spray element.

Claim 3

3. (Thrice Amended) Method according to claim 1, wherein the step of spraying further comprises spraying [characterized in that] the powder material [is sprayed] inside each container body from downstream of the extraction zone in the container body conveying direction.

Claim 4

4. (Thrice Amended) Method according to claim 1, wherein the step of spraying further comprises spraying [characterized in that] the powder material [is sprayed] inside each container body from upstream of the extraction zone in the container body conveying direction.

REMARKS

The claims presented for prosecution in the application as amended are 1 - 4. These claims are directed to a method for coating open-ended container bodies and recovering unused coating material.

Claims 1 - 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. According to the Examiner's suggestion, in each of claims 1 - 4, the word "characterized" has been replaced by the word "comprising", thereby obviating the §112 rejections. In the light of the several